

## OPINION 1922

***Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796 (Mammalia, Primates): conserved, and correction made to the entry for *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811 (Xenarthra) on the Official List**

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; Mammalia; Primates; Xenarthra; LORISIDAE; slender loris; two-toed sloths; *Loris*; *Loris tardigradus*; *Choloepus*; Sri Lanka; India; South and Central America.

**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary powers the name *Tardigradus* Boddaert, 1785 is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy.
- (2) The name *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796 (gender: masculine), type species (under Article 67h of the Code) by subsequent designation by Illiger (1811) *Lemur tardigradus* Linnaeus, 1758, is hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology.
- (3) The name *tardigradus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Lemur tardigradus* and as defined by the lectotype (specimen no. NRM 532011) in the Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm) designated by Gentry, Groves & Jenkins (1998) (specific name of the type species of *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.
- (4) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology:
  - (a) *Tardigradus* Boddaert, 1785, as suppressed in (1) above;
  - (b) *Stenops* Illiger, 1811 (a junior objective synonym of *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796);
  - (c) *Loridium* Rafinesque, 1815 (a junior objective synonym of *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796).
- (5) The entry on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology for *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811 is hereby emended to record *Bradypus didactylus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species by subsequent designation by Gray (1827).

**History of Case 2953**

An application for the conservation of *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796 was received from Mrs Anthea Gentry (*clo The Secretariat, ICZN, The Natural History Museum, London, U.K.*), Dr Colin P. Groves (*Australian National University, Canberra, Australia*), the late Mr J.E. Hill, and Dr Paulina D. Jenkins (*The Natural History Museum, London, U.K.*) on 8 July 1994. The case was published in BZN 51: 332–335 (December 1994). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

It was noted on the voting paper that, when Brisson's (1762) work entitled *Regnum Animale in classes IX distributum ...*, Ed. 2, was rejected for nomenclatural purposes in Opinion 1894 (March 1998), Brisson's name *Tardigradus* for the sloths was not one of the 11 mammal generic names which were then conserved (the names *Bradypus*

Linnaeus, 1758 and *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811 are currently in use for the three- and two-toed sloths respectively). As a result of Opinion 1894 *Tardigradus* Boddaert, 1785, previously treated as a junior homonym of *Tardigradus* Brisson, 1762, would become the valid name for the slender loris, long called *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796. The application proposed the conservation of the name *Loris* by suppression of *Tardigradus* Boddaert.

A comment in support of the application from Dr R.H. Crompton (*University of Liverpool, Liverpool, U.K.*) was published in BZN 52: 193 (June 1995).

Further information on the type material of *Lemur tardigradus* Linnaeus, 1758, the type species of *Loris* (para. 4 of the application), was supplied by three authors of the application (Gentry, Groves & Jenkins) in BZN 55: 118–119 (June 1998), who designated a specimen now in Stockholm as the lectotype.

These authors also proposed (BZN 55: 119) an emendation to the entry on the Official List for the authorship and date of the designation of the type species of *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811. The name *Choloepus* and that of its type species, *Bradypus didactylus* Linnaeus, 1758, were placed on Official Lists in Opinion 91 (October 1926) and Direction 22 (November 1955) respectively. However, the type designation was recorded (Direction 24, November 1955) as subsequent designation by Miller & Rehn (1901), and not by the earlier designation of Gray (1827).

#### Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1998 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 51: 334 and 55: 119. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1998 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 20: Bock, Bouchet, Brothers, Cocks, Cogger, Dupuis (part), Eschmeyer, Kabata, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Mawatari, Minelli, Nielsen, Nye, Papp, Patterson, Savage, Schuster, Štys

Negative votes — none.

Dupuis voted for proposals (1) and (4)(a) on BZN 51: 334 but otherwise abstained.

No votes were received from Lehtinen, Kerzhner, Kraus and Song.

Heppell and Ride were on leave of absence.

#### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists and an Official Index, and to the emended entry on the Official List for *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811, by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*Choloepus* Illiger, 1811, *Prodromus systematis Mammalium et Avium* ..., p. 108.

*Loridium* Rafinesque, 1815, *Analyse de la nature*, p. 54.

*Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796, *Magasin Encyclopédique, ou journal des sciences, des lettres et des arts*, (2)1(1): 48, 49.

*Stenops* Illiger, 1811, *Prodromus systematis Mammalium et Avium* ..., p. 73.

*Tardigradus* Boddaert, 1785, *Elenchus Animalium*, vol. 1 (Sistens Quadrupedia), pp. 43, 67.

*tardigradus*, *Lemur*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 29.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Lemur tardigradus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus *Loris* E. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1796:

Illiger, C. 1811. *Prodromus systematis Mammalium et Avium* ..., p. 73.

The following is the reference for the designation of *Bradypus didactylus* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the nominal genus *Choloepus* Illiger, 1811:

**Gray, J.E.** 1827. Synopsis of the species of the Class Mammalia .... Vol. 5 in Griffith, E., Smith, C.H. & Pidgeon, E. (Eds.), *The animal kingdom arranged in conformity with its organisation, by the Baron Cuvier* ..., p. 275.

The following is the reference for the designation of the lectotype of *Lemur tardigradus* Linnaeus, 1758:

**Gentry, A., Groves, C.P. & Jenkins, P.D.** 1998. BZN 55: 119.